

time of year to come to Philadelphia &  
I doubt not the change will do her good  
& I will try to make the time pass pleas-  
antly while you are gone on your botani-  
cal excursion, as I believe the ladies  
are not expected to join the party -

Montic is staying at his Grandfather's  
in Cambridge & perhaps he would like  
to come on with you in October - he thought  
he should like to stay all winter, but I dare  
say he has changed his mind by this  
time. I have not space enough to tell  
you of our grand Fair, for if I once launch  
out on that subject I shall need a quire  
of paper at least - I will only mention  
the success of the department under my  
charge & that we made nine thousand  
dollars out of Relics curiosities & autographs  
& shall probably add two thousand to it when  
the balance of our stock is disposed of -

The whole fair cleared considerably over a  
million & was altogether the most magnificent  
affair of the kind ever held in this country -

Give my best love to Mrs. Gray & ask her to let  
me know when to expect her and believe me  
truly your friend

Isabella James

Phil. - Aug. 14<sup>th</sup> - 1864

My dear Dr. Gray

I received your  
letter last Monday & hasten to answer  
your questions as well as I can -

I supposed you knew more about the  
Baldwin correspondence than I did,  
therefore I sent the parcel without any  
explanatory note. You will remember  
that you told me last summer that  
Dr. Darlington informed you some time  
ago, that he had suppressed some letters  
of Baldwin, that reflected upon Nuttall's  
conduct & that he intended you to  
have them. I mentioned what you  
had said to Sacy Darlington & he gave  
me the packet I sent you - he told  
me that his father, a few years before  
his death, destroyed a large mass of  
letters after selecting & binding up  
twelve large volumes of his correspondence

as the bundle of Baldwin's letters was left as you have it the inference was that it was destined for you. I opened the bundle because I was surprised to see so many & I came to the conclusion that they were the originals of the Rel. Bald. - in looking at the numbers I saw a few were missing & remember that Dr. Darlington gave me one of the letters of Baldwin fourteen years ago taking it from that very packet & saying he had given away a few as autographs.

As I understand it, they were given entirely to you, & I hope you will have them bound up & kept safe from <sup>the</sup> depredations <sup>finger</sup> of the collectors who are so eager to snap up everything. I am sure they are much safer in your Herbarium than they would be here.

I do not remember hearing anything about Mrs. Baldwin & imagine she died long ago.

We should like very much to see the improvements at the Botanic Garden but shall not have that pleasure this year. I have been in the city all summer except a week at Batslo but although the heat has been intense I was never better. I was told yesterday that it was the nineteenth day in which the thermometer had stood at 90 during some part of the day, but a charming change occurred last night & the air is September-like this evening, however the hot weather has brought plenty of peaches to perfection & we are enjoying that fruit very cheap & the finest & sweetest I have ever seen.

I understood from Mr. Seward that you expected to visit us in October, but as you do not mention it I fear it is a mistake. I trust you still intend to carry out your original plan & bring Mrs. Gray with you - it will be a pleasant